

House Resolution No. 1777

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the lives and careers of Show-Me State residents who have proven down through the years to be exemplary citizens in local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Mary Bland of Kansas City has attained considerable distinction as a civic leader, community activist, and former member of the House and Senate chambers of the Missouri General Assembly; and

Whereas, Mary Bland recently enhanced her already impressive record of achievement when she was nominated for the prestigious DeVerne Lee Calloway Award which is given annually by the Women Legislators of Missouri organization in honor of Missouri's first African-American woman state representative; and

Whereas, the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award is presented to a Missouri woman whose commitment and determination have resulted in highly positive contributions to equality and social justice by furthering legislation related to equal opportunities for all Missourians in education, housing, employment, and other important aspects of society; and

Whereas, born on January 24, 1936, Mary Bland is a 1954 graduate of R.T. Cole High School who furthered her education at Webster University, Penn Valley Community College, Ottawa University, and Harvard University; and

Whereas, Mary Bland was first elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1980 and served that legislative body until her election to the Missouri Senate in a special election in 1998; and

Whereas, during her tenure with the Missouri legislature, Mary Bland was integrally involved with legislation dealing with the handicapped, social services, health, and education; and

Whereas, Mary Bland is the loving mother of Pamela, Rodney, Craig, and Arletha:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved nomination of Mary Bland for the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award and to convey to her this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for continued personal and professional success for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Mary Groves Bland of Kansas City, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Sharon Sanders Brooks
District No. 37

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 1777, adopted April 4, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker